equipment and machines etc. to Indian shipyards by indigenous suppliers to be exempted from Central Excise Duty; finished products to be exempted from Excise and other Central levies; and lastly, to request the State Governments to write off demand for sales-tax arrears based on the public sector shipyards, and to grant waiver of the sales-tax for a period of five years.

Once these proposals are accepted, I am sure that our shipyards will not face the problems.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: What about your visit?

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Sir, there is a boom in the ship-building all over the word; but unfortunately, performance in Indian shipyards, and in the Hindustan Shipyard has been miserable. The Minister just said that they have got a package of revival plan. So far, all their diversification plans and restructuring plan have landed this shipyard in more of. a mess than it actually was. Sir, the Government proposes to sink more money. The FCI has been pressurised to give more cash credit to this particular shipyard. There is no productivity. High cost, long delivery period, high interest rate etc. have made this unit totally uneconomic. So, by sinking more money in this bottomless hole on the part of the Government under this revival plan, the Government will land itself in more mess, because this will not be able to revive the unit. Will the Government consider privatisation at this stage as the only alternative?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I agree with the hon. Member on some of the things which he said, that the shipyard is really in a mess. But we are confident that with the revival plan which we have got, once the Government clears it, we will be able to revive the shipyard. As far as the second part of his question oh privatisation is concerned, I am open to the proposal, on anything which comes up which can revive the ship-yard, keeping in view our country's interest and the workers' interest, and we will have no hesitation in looking favourably at some of the proposals. But I am very sure, once the proposal for revival that we have is accepted, there would not be any need to do that.

SHRI SATYANARAYANA DRO-NAMRAJU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Hindustan Shipyard is the first industry in Visakhapatnam. It was started by a private party 1952. Sir, Hindustan Shipyard built one ship called Jalausha which was inaugurated by late Jawaharlal Nehru. I entirely agree with the views expressed by the hon. Member, Shri Upen-dra. Now, an agitation is going on at Visakhapatnam. Nearly seven thousand workers depend on this industry. The Hindustan Shipyard requires at least Rs. 27 crores to revive the shipyard. Therefore, I would like to know from- the Hon'ble Minister whether there is any proposal before the Government to allocate some finances to revive the Hindustan Shipyard at Visakhapatnam, and if so, the details thereof.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER; I have already given the proposal for revival.

SHRI SATYANARAYANA DRO-NAMRAJU: Is there any proposal before the Government?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Well, there are many proposals. Like what the hon. Member, Shri Kalmadi had said—putting in more money is leading us more in a mess. We have a very concentrated proposal which we expect to be cleared by this financial year. Once that happens, there will be some improvement.

Export of Textiles

*44. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:†
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Mira Das.

(a) what had been the export of textiles during the last three years and what is the expected export of textiles this year;

(b) what is the item-wise export of garments, handlooms, cotton fabrics, cotton and synthetic yarn at present;

(c) what are the reasons for insig nificant export of synthetic textiles including yarn in spite of cheap Indian labour; and

(d) what remedial steps Govern ment propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Export of Textiles during the last three years was as given below:

(Rs, in crores)

Year	Export
1988-89	4366
1989-90	6472
1990-91	8366

For the current year a target of Rs. 11.167 crores has been fixed.

(b) Item-wise export of garments, handlooms, cotton, fabrics, cotton yarn and synthetic yarn during the period April—September, 1991 are as given below:

(Rs, in Crores/Provisioal)

Item	Export
Garments	2480
Cotton Fabrics (Millmade' Po-werloom and Handloom) .	766
Cotton Yarn . . .	470
Synthetic Yarn; . . .	98

(c) and (d) Export of synthetic textiles amounted to Rs. 635 crores in 1990-91. During first six months of the current year, the exports amounted Rs. 469 crores as compared to Rs. 290 crores in the same period in the previous year registering an increase of 62 per cent. Therefore, export of synthetic textiles from India cannot be considered insignificant.

SHRIMATI MIRA DAS: Sir, the reply given by the Minister is also in the Annual Report. My question was so direct. As you know, textile is the prime factor for employment mostly in the rural areas. I would like to know whether the Government has taken up jute as one of the major items of export. I want to know this as there is no mention of jute or jute products or garments in the statement given by the Minister.

श्री अशोक गहलोत : सर, टैक्सटाइल के अलावा जो प्रोडक्शन रखा गया है उसमें हमने जो फिगर्स दिये थे वे एक तो टैक्सटाइल के बारे में दिये थे दूसरा अगर हम लोग जूट को भी शामिल करते हैं तो अप्रैल से सितम्बर तक का निर्यात 5895 करोड़ रुपए है और जूट के डाइवर्सीफिकेशन का काम बराबर चल रहा है और मैं समझता हूं कि जूट में भी बराबर पिछले एक अर्से में जो एक्सपोर्ट होता था वह कुछ कम हुआ है । चूंकि रशिया में 50 परसेंट से ज्यादा एक्सपोर्ट होता था और रशिया में जो पोलिटिकल स्थिति बनी है, जो वहां की फाइनेंशियल स्थिति खराब हुई है उसके कारण वहां पर एक्सपोर्ट होना कम हुआ है ?

SHRIMATI MIRA DAS: My second question is: Recently, the Minister had given a statement regarding their plan to develop the jute industry and make it viable. I want to know from the Minister as to what is the viability he intends to make?

श्री अशोक गहलोत : जूट डाइवर्सीफिकेशन का पूरा प्रोग्राम अलग से चल रहा है और जूट के प्रोडक्शन को बढ़ाने का भी कार्य है । साथ साथ में उसके डाईवर्सीफाइड आइटम्स बनाने का काम भी

चल रहा है । तो मैं समझता हूं कि जूट पर काफी ध्यान दिया जा रहा है और जूट ग्रोअर्स को भी पूरा फायदा मिले इस दिशा में पूरी कार्यवाही चल रही है । आप अगर जूट के बारे में अलग से क्वेश्चन पूछती तो अलग से आपको उत्तर देते । मेन क्वेश्चन आपका टैक्सटाइल से संबंधित है ।

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: The domestic price of synthetic fibre and yarn is three times higher than that of international price. I want to know from the Minister, through you Sir, whether the Government is going to keep in parity the domestic price and the international price in respect of synthetic fibre and yarn.

श्री अशोक गहलोत : सिंथेटिक यार्न और काटन की पैरिटी बनाने का कोई ऐसा प्रोपोजल नहीं है । सिंथेटिक यार्न की अपनी एक्साइज ड्यूटी लगती है, उसके अपने कस्टम के नियम हैं उसके अनुसार उसकी प्राइस रेगूलेट हो सकती है । इसलिए मैं नहीं समझता कि माननीय सदस्य जो सवाल पूछ रहे हैं कि सिंथेटिक यार्न और दूसरे यार्न की पैरिटी का क्या सवाल है... (व्यवधान)

श्रीमति मोरादास : डोमेस्टिक मार्केट और इंटरनेशनल मार्केट के प्राइस के बारे में पूछ रहे हैं... (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a question on synthetic textiles in Part (c) —what are the reasons for insignificant export of synthetic textiles?

श्री अशोक गहलोत : आप इन्टरनेशनल मार्केट के अन्दर कह रहे हैं ।

श्री सभापति : हां, वही कह रहे हैं । उन्होंने पूछा है 'What are the reasons for the insignificant export of synthetic textiles including yarn in spite of cheap Indian labour;' That is why they are asking about synlhetic yarn.

श्री अशोक गहलोत : श्रीमन्, सिंथेटिक यार्न का जहां तक सवाल है, मैंने कहा है कि हमारा इंटरनेशनल मार्केट में बहुत कम शेयर है । उसका कारण है, क्योंकि हमारे यहां एक्साईज-ड्यूटी ज्यादा लगती है । उसकी वजह से हम लोग कम्पीट नहीं कर पाते हैं ।

हमने फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री से यह सवाल उठा रखा है । मैं समझता हूं कि कुछ उसमें रिलीफ मिलेगा, तब जाकर इसकी पैरिटी हो सकेगी ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Bilateral talks between India anil Pakistan

*45. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of talks held recently between the Prime Minister and his Pakistani counterpart, him and his counterpart in Pakistan on 30th September, 1991 and also the Foreign Secretaries of the two countries;

(b) whether Government have demanded Pakistan to stop arming and encouraging the militants of Punjab and Kashmir;

(c) if so, what is Pakistan's reaction .thereto; and

(d) whether any agreement has been reached with Pakistan regarding Kashmir and on other bilateral pro blems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) During these talks bilatesal and international issues of interest were discussed including the need to reorient bilateral relations in the interest of the peoples of our two countries, of peace and stability in the region and in view of the rapidly changing international context.